

Serial No. 10/500,592
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P01232WOUS

Amendments to the Claims:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A method for defining parameters that are to be used for transmitting data between ~~a first user and a second user~~ a plurality of users in a communication network, the method comprising:

providing parameters from a plurality of users in a communication network during a set up of a data transmission between the users, the parameters provided to negotiate how data is to be transferred within the network;

providing, during the setup, for each user a number of votes of the votes to be cast for the selection of parameters; and

determining by a decision unit, according to a predetermined voting method and during the setup, in view of the number of votes, which parameters are to be used by the users for transmitting data.

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein a decision unit determines which protocol options are to be used by the users for the transmission of data, in accordance with a predetermined voting method and in view of the number of votes.

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19. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein a decision unit determines, in accordance with a predetermined voting method, in view of the number of votes, which functionalities are to be activated by which users.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

defining for the transmission of data at least one of a bit rate, a data format, TFO codec mode parameters.

21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

determining the maximum number of parameters for each user; and
selecting the smallest of the maximums that can be used as the minimum number of
parameters that can be used by the users.

22. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

determining the number of votes of a user depending on the number of parameters proposed by the user or weighting of the proposed parameters.

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

selecting parameters first for the user with highest number of votes.

24. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

making a selection from the parameters of a user in accordance with a predetermined sequence.

25. (currently amended) The method according to claim 24, the method further comprising:

selecting first the lowest or highest mode-parameter from the parameters proposed by this user.

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26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

performing further voting for parameters in accordance with a predetermined method.

27. (previously presented) The method according to claim 26, the method further comprising:

performing the further voting for parameters in accordance with a predetermined method in accordance with DeHondt or StLague/Schepers.

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the parameters that are used are AMR codec modes for a mobile radio transmission using TFO.

29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, the method further comprising:

providing for all users a decision unit, the decision unit using the same method for defining the parameters to be used for the transmission of data between the users.

30. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein one decision unit is deciding for all users.

31. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein a plurality of decision units which are assigned to the users are deciding for one or more users.

32. (currently amended) An apparatus for defining parameters that are to be used for transmitting data between a first user and at least one second user, the apparatus comprising:

a plurality of parameters provided from the first user during a set up of a data transmission between the first and second users;

a plurality of parameters provided from the second user during the set up;

a mechanism for providing a number of votes of the votes to be cast for the selection of parameters during the setup, for each user; and

a decision unit for a decision, according to a predetermined voting method and during the setup, in view of the number of votes, which parameters are to be used by the users for transmitting data.

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33. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the apparatus is part of a transcoder.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the apparatus is part of a Base Station Subsystem.

35. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the apparatus is part of a Radio Network Controller.

36. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the apparatus is part of a mobile radio terminal.